CHAPTER 55

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

S. F. 357

AN ACT to amend and revise chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, relating to the protection, welfare and assistance of aged persons in need and having domicile in the state of Iowa, relating to relating to recovery by the state from the estate and life insurance of a deceased recipient for assistance paid him during his lifetime; creating a fund to be known as the old age assistance revolving fund and making an appropriation therefor.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding to section one 3 (1), the following subsections:

"e. The term 'domicile' shall mean the fixed permanent residence of 4 5 the applicant or recipient of old age assistance, to which, when absent,

he has the intention of returning.

"f. The term 'residence' shall mean the place of dwelling of the applicant or recipient of old age assistance, whether permanent or temporary, and such dwelling place may or may not be the domicile 10 of such person."

- SEC. 2. Amend section two (2) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of 2 the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by inserting in line 6, following the word "years", the words "and ending 3 July first of the respective year."
- SEC. 3. Amend section five (5) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of ing the words ", and ending July first," following the word "respectively" in line 9. the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by insert-2

Further amend said section by inserting in line 15, following the word "woman," the words and punctuation ", except that whenever a 5 change in the office of overseer of the poor might place three men on the board, the appointive members shall serve the balance of their term unless removed for cause."

- SEC. 4. Amend section six (6) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 4 the word "traveling." 3
- SEC. 5. Amend section seven (7), chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking the first sentence found in lines 1 and 2 and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "Any member of the board may qualify himself as a local investigator, as hereinafter provided, or the board may appoint one or more local investigators, at a salary for each to be set by the board and approved by the commission."
- SEC. 6. Amend section nine (9) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 3 the words "one dollar per day" and inserting in lieu

thereof the words "three hundred dollars a year."

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SEC. 7. Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking all of section eleven (11) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"Sec. 11. Income considered. The income of the applicant shall be his income for the twelve months preceding the date on which his application is made; provided, that if the applicant does at the request of the commission show to their satisfaction a decrease of income, the amount of such decrease may be deducted from the income of the preceding twelve months in determining the amount of assistance to be allowed. However, in calculating the income of the applicant, occasional or uncertain earning and/or gifts, as determined by the commission, in the amount of one hundred dollars in the aforesaid twelvemonth period, shall not be considered."

SEC. 8. Amend section twelve (12), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by inserting, following the word "who" in line 2, the words and punctuation, ", at the time of making application for assistance or for the renewal of a certificate of assistance.'

Further amend said section by striking all of lines 3 and 4 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"a. Has obtained legal residence and has domicile in the county from which he applies.

Further amend said section by striking lines 6 and 7 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"c. Is a citizen of the United States."

Further amend said section by striking all of subsection d and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"d. Has a domicile in this state and has had such domicile continuously for at least nine years immediately preceding the date of application, but such continuous domicile shall be deemed to have been interrupted by periods of absence from the state when such periods of absence total more than four years, except as otherwise provided in subsections e and f of this section."

Further amend said section by inserting, immediately following

subsection d, the following:

"e. Has had at least five years residence in the state during the nine years immediately preceding the date of application, one of said five years having been continuous and immediately preceding such date. However, continuous residence shall be deemed to have been interrupted by periods of absence exceeding a total of thirty days during the said one year even though a domicile has not been acquired outside this state, except that temporary absences as a patient in a hospital or sanitarium shall not be deemed to have interrupted such continuous residence."

Further amend said section by inserting, as subsection f, the following:

"f. Has been absent from the state in the service of the state or of the United States but has not acquired a domicile outside this state."

Further amend said section by striking line 28 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

38 "j. Has no spouse, child, other person, municipality, association, 39 society or corporation responsible under the law of this."

Further amend said section by striking from line 32 the words "one dollar per day" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "three hundred dollars a year."

Further amend said section by changing the subsection designations as follows: e to g; f to h; g to i; and i to k.

SEC. 9. Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking all of section thirteen (13), and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"Sec. 13. Property exclusions. No person shall receive old age assistance if the assessed value of his real property, less recorded liens, exceeds two thousand dollars, or if married and not separated from the spouse, if the net assessed value of his real property together with that of such spouse, less recorded liens, exceeds three thousand dollars.

"No person shall receive old age assistance if he has more than three hundred dollars in cash, on deposit in a bank, in postal savings, or if the immediate cash value, as determined by the board and subject to review by the commission, of his holdings of bonds, stocks, mortgages, other securities or investments, except real estate, exceeds three hundred dollars. At the discretion of the commission, however, where such immediate sale, for cash, of such securities or investments necessitates an undue financial sacrifice, the applicant, when in immediate need of assistance, shall assign such securities and investments to the state to be held in trust by the commission to reimburse the old age assistance revolving fund for the amount paid from the old age pension fund and the old age assistance revolving fund in assistance or other benefits in behalf of said applicant.

"No person shall be allowed assistance if the claimant has deprived himself, directly or indirectly, of any property for the purpose of qualifying for old age assistance, or if the claimant or the husband or wife conveys or encumbers any real estate or other property owned by them or by either of them for the purpose of preventing the state from reimbursing itself for assistance granted or to be granted hereunder.

"A sworn statement by both the vendor and vendee of the reasons and/or considerations of any transfer of real and/or personal property within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for old age assistance may be required by the board or commission to be made in such manner and on such forms as the commission may direct; provided, however, that no sworn statement need be made for any transfer prior to January 1, 1934, unless the commission so directs."

SEC. 10. Amend section fourteen (14), chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 2 the word "property" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "real estate."

Further amend said section by striking all of line 3 following the word "of", and inserting in lieu thereof the words "the assessed value

of such real property after deducting the amount of all recorded encumbrances and/or liens thereon."

Further amend said section by striking all of lines 4 and 5 and in-

serting in lieu thereof the following:

"The annual income of any personal property, including moneys and credits, which does not produce a reasonable income, shall be computed at five per centum of the value of such property as determined by the board and reported to the commission; provided, however, that the value of household goods and/or heirlooms shall be exempted to the amount of five hundred dollars in such computation."

SEC. 11. Amend section fifteen (15) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding in line 2, preceding the word "assistance", the words "or who has received."

Further amend said section by striking from line 4 the words and punctuation, "together with simple interest at six per centum annually,."

Further amend said section by striking from line 9 the word "pension" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "assistance revolving."

Further amend said section by inserting following the word "re-

11 ceiving" in line 11 the words "or have received."
12 Further amend said section by adding theret

Further amend said section by adding thereto the following sentence: "Furthermore, no such claim shall be enforced against any real estate of the recipient, or the real estate of a person who has been a recipient, while it is occupied by the recipient's surviving spouse, if the latter, at the time of marriage to the recipient, was not more than fifteen years younger than the recipient, and does not marry again."

SEC. 12. Amend section sixteen (16), chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding to line 10 the following sentence: "The county recorder shall not charge a fee for such recording and indexing."

Further amend said section by adding, following line 10, the fol-

6 lowing paragraphs: 7 "Assistance furni

"Assistance furnished under this act shall not constitute a lien on any real estate owned by the Indian tribes residing in this state. This is the sole exception to the provisions of this and the preceding section.

"No statute of limitations shall apply to any lien or cause of action, belonging to the state and arising under the provisions of this section or act, while the recipient, former recipient, or the spouse survives.

"The commission shall release liens, accruing under the provisions of this section and act, when fully paid, when compromised and settled, or when the estate, of which real estate affected by this act is a part, has been probated and the proceeds allowable have been applied on such liens."

Further amend said section by striking from line 21 the word "applicant" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "recipient, or person who has received assistance, and the surviving spouse of such person, which spouse meets the requirements set out in section fifteen of this act,."

24 Further amend said section by striking from line 22 the word "pension" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "assistance re-25 volving." 26

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SEC. 13. Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding, following section sixteen (16), the following:

"Sec. 16-a. Executor responsible. Any person becoming beneficially entitled to any property or interest therein by any method of transfer or otherwise, and all administrators, executors, referees, and trustees of estates subject to liens provided for by this chapter, shall be respectively liable personally or under their bond for the proper settlement of such lien and claim by making proper application of the proceeds of said estate, under the provisions of sections fifteen (15) and sixteen (16), chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, as amended by this act.

"Sec. 16-d. Assignment of insurance. Any person, who has been granted a certificate of old age assistance and is receiving payments of assistance from the old age pension fund, may petition the commission to accept an assignment of any assignable death benefits, loan value, or cash surrender value, of any life insurance policy, death or funeral benefit of any association, society or organization, requiring further payment of premiums or assessments which such person believes he is unable to pay. The commission may accept such assignment if it deems such action advisable and in the best interests of such person and the state. Upon the payment of such death benefit, the commission shall first deduct the amount of the funeral expenses, incurred under the provisions of section twenty-five (25) of this act. the amount of the premiums or assessments paid by the commission to keep the insurance or benefit in force, and the amount of assistance paid to such person, all of which shall accrue to the old age assistance revolving fund, and pay the balance received, if any, to such person as was the beneficiary last specified upon the policy."

SEC. 14. Amend section eighteen (18) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking all of lines 1, 2 and 3 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"Sec. 18. Investigation. Whenever an application is made for old age assistance, the board shall promptly make an investigation through an investigator, and in addition such direct investigation as it deems advisable, and after hearing the applicant, if."

Further amend said section by striking from line 7 the words "a copy of."

SEC. 15. Amend section twenty (20), chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from lines 2 and 3 the words "one year" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "two years."

Further amend said section by adding thereto the sentence: "The amount of assistance granted under this act shall be subject to review at any time by the commission and the amount received by the re-

cipient may be increased, decreased, or discontinued.'

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Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking all of section twenty-one (21) and inserting in lieu thereof the following: 3

"Sec. 21. Renewal of certificate. A renewal certificate of assistance shall be required for each biennium, to be issued by the commission in such form, in such manner and following such investigation as the commission shall direct.

"The general provisions as to the eligibility of applicants for assistance shall apply to recipients whose certificates are subject to review for the issuance of renewal certificates of assistance, with

the following exceptions as to residence:

"Provided, that he does not establish a domicile outside this state, a person may, while receiving assistance and with the approval of the commission, retain his rights under the provisions of this chapter and section, even though he takes up residence outside the state for reasons of the infirmities of age, health or economic necessity:

"a. In any privately supported charitable, benevolent or fraternal institution:

"b. In any privately supported hospital or sanitarium, except institutions for the feeble minded and insane;

"c. In the household of a relative or friend."

SEC. 17. Amend section twenty-two (22) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 4 the words "petition was received by the board" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "application is approved by the commission."

Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding as section twenty-two-a (22-a) the following:

"Sec. 22-a. Expiration of certificates. All applications for assistance which have been or are received and upon which assistance is granted by the commission between August 1, 1934, and July 1, 1935, shall be numbered, to designate individual pensioners and the county board to which they made application. The method of numbering shall be by numbers designating the various counties of the state according to their alphabetical arrangement by names.

"The individual applications on which assistance is granted shall be numbered or designated as 'pension' numbers consecutively, beginning with one, and separated by a hypen from the county number, according to the order of their approval by the commission.

"The expiration of the assistance certificates, provided for under

the provisions of section twenty (20) of this act, and granted by the commission between the dates set forth above, shall be deemed to be on September 30, 1935, for all application files whose pension numbers end in 1; and

"October 31, 1935, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 2; and

"November 30, 1935, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 3; and

"December 31, 1935, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 4; and

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      "January 31, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end
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    in 5; and
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"February 29, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 6; and

"March 31, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 7; and

"April 30, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end in

8; and "May 31, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 9; and "June 30, 1936, for all applications whose pension numbers end in 0."

SEC. 19. Amend section twenty-five (25) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by inserting in line 4, following the word "deceased", the words and punctuation "or any life insurance or death or funeral benefit association or society payment, made by reason of the death of such person, payable to his estate or the spouse or any relative, responsible under sections fifty-two hundred ninety-eight (5298), fifty-three hundred one (5301) and ten thousand five hundred one-b six (10501-b6) of the code, 1931."

"The person to Further amend said section by adding thereto: whom such funeral expense is paid as above provided is hereby prohibited from soliciting, accepting or contracting to receive any further compensation for services rendered in connection with such burial except on written approval of the board and subject to such rules and

14 15 regulations as the commission shall direct."

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SEC. 20. Amend section twenty-seven (27) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding thereto the following:

"This section shall not be construed to exclude the spouse, minor children or other dependents of the recipient of old age assistance, or the members of the same family or household as said recipient from receiving other forms of aid, relief, assistance or pensions handled or paid through the state or any of its political subdivisions. In administering old age assistance or other forms of relief, the officials of this state and its political subdivisions shall assume old age assistance payments to be made for the sole benefit of the aged person to whom the certificate of assistance has been issued."

Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding as section 3 twenty-nine-a (29-a) the following:

"Sec. 29-a. Unlawful to charge for cashing warrant. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to charge a fee, service charge or exchange for the cashing of a warrant issued on the old age pension fund, or to discount or pay less than the face value of any warrant drawn on the old age pension fund when cashing the same or accepting it in the payment of the purchase price of goods or merchandise, services, rent, taxes, or indebtedness.

Amend section thirty-four (34), acts of the Forty-fifth 1 SEC. 23. General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 11

the words "the tax list" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "a tax list as specified by the auditor of state."

Further amend said section by striking from lines 13 and 14 the words "at the same time as property taxes and subject to the same penalties" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "as of January first, with a delinquency date of July first, after which latter date a penalty of one per centum for each month or fractional month of delinquency."

Further amend said section by striking from lines 16, 17, 18 and 19 the words and punctuation ", provided, however, that said tax, if paid, shall be credited on any poll taxes assessed for street, road, or other purposes against the person paying same," and inserting in lieu thereof the following punctuation and words:

"in any subsequent year to that in which any tax is due and payable, the county treasurer shall charge any unpaid tax and/or penalty against the property owned by the person by whom said tax is payable; or said county treasurer, when such delinquent person is not the owner of real estate, shall cause to be served a notice, which shall be served in the same manner as an original notice, upon the delinquent taxpayer's spouse or employer, if either, of the amount of the tax and penalties due and costs of collection and said spouse or employer shall pay the same, and thereupon the employer may subsequently withhold the amount thus paid in tax, penalty and cost of collection from any wages or salary then or in the future due said employee but costs of collection shall not be chargeable unless the tax and penalties are collected."

Further amend said section by inserting, after line 40, the following

paragraph:

"The officer of each department, division, or bureau of the state government, including state educational institutions, whose duty it is to make out a payroll and to certify the same, shall be liable, personally and under his bond, for the failure of any state employee, under his jurisdiction, to pay the per capita tax levied under the provisions of this section. Such officer is hereby authorized to act in the same manner in withholding the tax from the salary or wages of a state employee as is granted a private employer and a municipal employer under the provisions of this section and act.

"The penalties accruing under the provisions of this section shall accompany the tax and be credited to the old age pension fund."

SEC. 24. Amend chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by adding thereto, as section thirty-four-a (34-a), the following:

"Sec. 34-a. Refund of tax. Whenever any tax, as provided for in the preceding section, has been erroneously paid or has been paid or collected more than once for the same year, the taxpayer by whom the tax was erroneously paid shall have the amount of said tax or duplicated tax refunded to him upon application to the county treasurer and the submission of satisfactory proof that the tax has been erroneously paid or paid more than once for any year. Such refund shall be from any old age pension funds then in the hands of such county treasurer."

13 Further amend said chapter by adding thereto, as section thirty-14 four-b (34-b), the following:

"Sec. 34-b. Authority to accept gifts. The commission is authorized to accept in behalf of the state any gifts, deeds, or bequests of money or property the proceeds of which shall accrue to the benefit of the old age pension fund. In the making of such gifts or contributions the donor shall attach no conditions whatsoever. The management and disposition of any property so received will be in the commission but such management and disposition shall be subject to the approval of the executive council."

Further amend said chapter by adding thereto, as section thirty-

24 four-c (34-c), the following:

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"Sec. 34-c. Revolving fund created. There is hereby created a fund, to be known as the 'old age assistance revolving fund,' to be used for the purpose of protecting the interests of the recipients of old age assistance and such interests of the state and the old age pension fund as arise under the provisions of sections thirteen (13), fifteen (15) and sixteen (16), of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, as amended by this act, and such interests as provided in section thirteen (13) of this act.

"To establish the old age assistance revolving fund, there is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. The state comptroller shall set aside from the appropriation, herein made, the amount necessary to be used by the commission. Upon orders by the commission the comptroller shall draw warrants from this fund,

if he so approve, for the purposes herein described.

"All moneys hereafter received, under the provisions of the above described sections, including any money received under the appropriation herein made, shall constitute the old age assistance revolving fund. Whenever said fund shall have a balance in excess of the amount necessary to carry out the provisions for which it is created, the state comptroller shall transfer such excess to the old age pension fund and shall notify the commission of such transfer."

SEC. 25. Amend section thirty-six (36) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from lines 2 and 3 the words and punctuation "March 15, 1935," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "June 1, 1936,."

Further amend said section by striking from line 6 the words and punctuation "April 1, 1935," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Tune 20, 1925."

7 "June 30, 1936,."

SEC. 26. Amend section thirty-seven (37) of chapter nineteen (19), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly in extraordinary session, by striking from line 2 the word "calendar" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fiscal."

SEC. 27. Following the publication of this act in two newspapers of general circulation in this state, as provided by law, sections eight (8), nine (9), ten (10), twenty-three (23) and twenty-five (25), shall be effective as of July 1, 1935. The remainder of this act being

deemed of immediate importance shall be in full force and effect after its publication as herein provided.

Senate File 357. Approved May 3, 1935.

I hereby certify that the foregoing act was published in the Keokuk Gate City, May 8, 1935, and the Winterset Madisonian, May 9, 1935, in accordance with section 55, code, 1931.

MRS. ALEX MILLER, Secretary of State.

Note: Section 22 does not appear in the bill as passed by the Forty-sixth General Assembly.

Note: The reference in section 8 to "section twelve (12)" and in section 23 to "section thirty-four (34), acts of the Forty-fifth General Assembly, in extraordinary session," probably applies to "chapter 19" of said acts.

CHAPTER 56

SUPPORT OF THE POOR. ENFORCEMENT OF LIABILITY

S. F. 392

AN ACT to amend section fifty-three hundred two (5302), chapter two hundred sixty-seven (267), code, 1931, to provide that the county old age assistance boards or the state old age assistance commission may apply to the district court for an order to compel legally responsible relatives to support indigent and elderly persons.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- SECTION 1. Amend section fifty-three hundred two (5302), chapter
- two hundred sixty-seven (267), code, 1931, by inserting, following the word "trustees" in line 4, the words and punctuation ", county old age assistance board, or state old age assistance commission."

Senate File 392. Approved May 4, 1935.

CHAPTER 57

TOWNSHIP HALLS. JOINT OWNERSHIP

H. F. 123

AN ACT to amend sections fifty-five hundred seventy-seven (5577), fifty-five hundred seventy-eight (5578), and fifty-five hundred seventy-nine (5579), code, 1931, relating to the location, construction or purchase, and joint ownership of township halls.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. Section fifty-five hundred seventy-seven (5577), code,

1931, is amended by adding thereto the following:

- "They shall also have the power to join with the city or town authorities of any city or town within their borders and build and 3 4 equip said building as a public hall under such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon."
- SEC. 2. Section fifty-five hundred seventy-eight (5578), code, 1931, is amended as follows:
- 3 1. Line 1, insert after the word "trustees" the following: "Or in case of joint ownership, in conjunction with the city or town authorities."